Tales of Uncle Tompa

The Legendary Rascal of Tibet

Compiled & Translated by
RINJING DORJE

Illustrated by
Addison Smith

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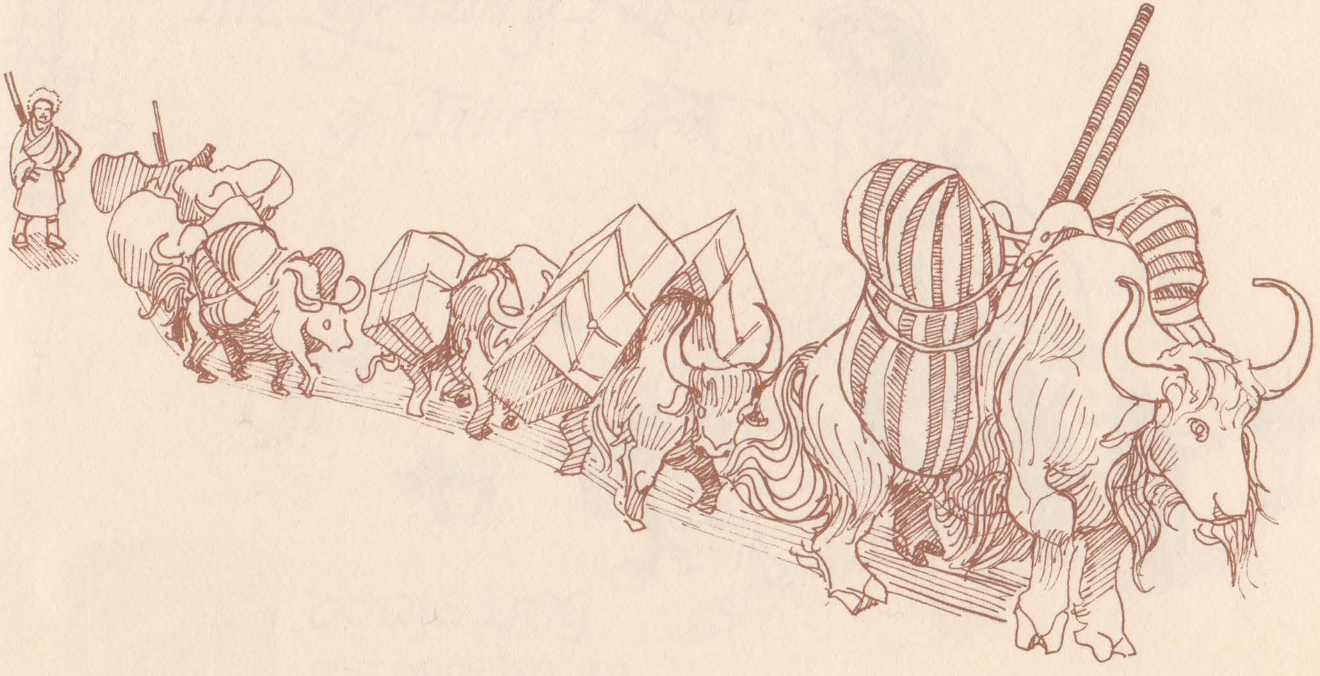

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Editors' Note

Throughout the 'Tales of Uncle Tompa' we have tried as best we could to preserve the delightful flavor of Rinjing Dorje's style as well as emphasizing the oral quality of each story. When in doubt grammatically we resorted to the way in which we felt the stories ought to be heard rather than how they should appear correctly written. In keeping with tradition, we have left these tales as simple and succinct as possible to allow the readers their own embellishments in the future retelling of them

C.K. & D.H.

Fishtown, February 9, 1975

author's note

Many people in the world, especially in the West, believe Tibet is a land of "magic saints" where all the people spend their time meditating. Although this is an exaggeration, it is true that many Tibetans are very devoted to the Buddhist religion. While all the stories in this book deal directly with Tibetan Buddhist culture, they also reflect the ways in which Tibetans laugh and enjoy life. The stories were told to me while I was a yak herder boy between the ages of six and twelve. Until now, none of them have ever appeared in print. They were all written down by me from memory. I always enjoyed hearing the stories of Uncle Tompa, who is known as Agu Tompa in Tibet. According to many people's guess, Uncle Tompa was born in southern Tibet around the 13th century. I could not find any proof of this, however.

This book was written informally using plain language about sexual matters as Tibetans always do when joking in their own tongue. I hope you won't find this offensive.

Many people are writing and translating Tibetan books, but I have yet to see one on humor. I hope in reading my book you will find both laughter and relaxation.

I would like to thank my friend Terry Ellingson for his help in correcting my English and Addison Smith who drew the illustrations.

Rinjing Dorje
Kathmandu, Nepal
Year of the Water-Ox
1973

Uncle Tompa Sells Penises at the Nunnery

Once upon a time, a couple was sowing their field. A number of other workers whom they had hired were helping them. It was lunch time. All the workers were taking their lunch, including the couple who owned the field. Tibetans enjoy laughing and making fun of each other. So, while everyone was busy making fun, telling jokes about sex, and laughing, a Lama who was a very holy man walked by. According to Tibetan custom, the Lama asked the couple, "What are you doing?"

The couple started to say that they were sowing seeds for their crop, but since they were right in the middle of telling sex jokes, the answer that slipped out was, "Well, we are sowing penises in our field."

Everybody laughed because of the slip, but the Lama was embarassed by their reply. So he cursed them, "MAY EVERY SEED OF YOUR GRAIN GROW AS A PENIS!" Having uttered this curse, the Lama went on his way.

At the time of harvest, the couple went to their field. What they saw shocked them. It was filled with a crop of penises. They began crying because of what had happened to them. Not only were they terribly embarrassed, they did not have any seeds of grain to live on the next year, since that was the only field they had.

Naturally, such a strange story spread among the villages near and far. It happened that Uncle Tompa also heard of this and came to see. He viewed the poor couple's field of unbelievable penises in all sizes.

He went to the couple's home. He found them crying, and rolling on the floor. They could not bear the terrible happening. Uncle consoled them. "No, no. Don't worry so much; I shall sell them for you and from that you will be able to buy more grain than you would have gotten from the field."

Hearing this from Uncle Tompa, the couple thanked him for his offer. Uncle then asked them to bring donkeys with as many empty sacks to load all the penises. They started harvesting the penises and loaded them on the donkeys as Uncle had asked them. But the couple still did not know what Uncle was going to do or where he was going.

Uncle Tompa left the couple's house and promised that he would come back after a few days. Then Uncle went directly to one of Tibet's largest nunneries with his donkeys.

As soon as he arrived in the open courtyard of the nunnery, he unloaded the

donkeys and let them out of the yard. He laid down a few big pieces of cloth and put out all the penises in rows. As soon as he was through, he shouted, "ANY ONE WHO WANTS A MAGIC PENIS TO FULFILL ALL SEXY DESIRES CAN PURCHASE ONE RIGHT NOW!" He shouted again and again. But he did not get any customers until dark.

The Abbess of the nunnery came out and said to Uncle, "What is your price for the biggest one?" She pointed to it and covered her mouth in shyness. Uncle asked a great deal of money for it, but she did not mind paying the whole amount. She asked him, "How do I use it?"

Uncle said, "Well, you have to keep it away from dogs and cats because they might eat it. Then, when you want to have sexual enjoyment, you should say 'Chhu! Chhu!' This magic penis will come and fuck you until you breathe out a long breath."

The Abbess was very happy to have such a useful object. Because, as everybody knows, nuns are not allowed to enjoy men.

After the Abbess went away, almost all the nuns came and bought the remaining penises. Uncle was very busy pricing them according to their sizes and collecting money. He also had to give them instructions on how to use them. When he had finished, Uncle went back to the couple with a large sum of money. They were very surprised to see him.

In the meantime, the Abbess followed the instructions that were given by Uncle Tompa. She called, "Chhu chhu." Sure enough, the penis jumped on her and fucked her. When she wanted it to stop, she would give out a long breath, "Hu!" and the penis would fall out. The Abbess enjoyed that, and later she loved the Magic Penis so much that she had a special silver box made in which she kept it wrapped in silk. She felt it was so precious in her life that she would never spend a night without it.

Years passed. One day she was invited to a special worship by a rich family who lived a long distance away. The Abbess forgot to carry the silver box with her. According to her rites of worship, she had to stay there several days. The first night that she was without the Magic Penis made her very unhappy. The next day she told the family she did not want to stay for their whole ceremony. She explained that she must return to the nunnery that very day, because she had left a special holy object there, which, according to her religious vows, she was not allowed to spend the night without.

She told all these lies to the family, but still they insisted she stay there to complete their worship. They suggested they send their servant to pick it up. If he rode a horse both ways, he could go and come back that same day.

The Abbess finally agreed. She told the servant, "There is a silver box under my bed. You must not open it. If you do, you will commit a great sin!" The servant promised he would not open it.

He went to the nunnery, picked up the silver box, and started on his way back. Along the way, he wondered, "What can there be in such a precious looking box?" He wanted to look inside, but was afraid he might commit a sin. So after some distance had passed, he came to a place where there was nobody around. He got down from the horse and rested for a while.

After wondering what was in it for a while longer, he gave up the fear of sinning and opened the silver box. What he saw was something very large and thick wrapped in silk. He opened up the silk and uncovered a huge penis. He was so amazed to see it, he said "Chuu chhu!" (which is also a Tibetan expression of surprise).

All of a sudden, the penis jumped on him and looked for a hole. Since he was a male, the penis could only find his asshole and started fucking. The poor servant was terrified. He cried out and ran in all directions until he became unbearably tired. Finally he breathed out a long breath, "Hu," and the penis came out.

The servant got very mad at the penis. He picked up a big rock and beat it until it was mashed and flattened out of shape. Then he wrapped it up in the same silk, put it back in the silver box, and continued on his way back.

As soon as he arrived, he handed the box to the Abbess, saying he had not committed any sin. The Abbess was very happy to have it back with her.

When night came, she went to bed and called, "Chhu chhu." But the penis did

not come to her as usual. She called again and again several times, but it still did not come. She suspected something had happened to it, so she opened the silver box, and she found the penis beaten completely flat. All night long she could not bear the sadness of what had happened to her lover, but she could not tell anyone because it would have been humiliating for a nun.

The next morning, she woke up in a very sad mood. The family wanted to know what had happened to her. She told them that she was very ill.

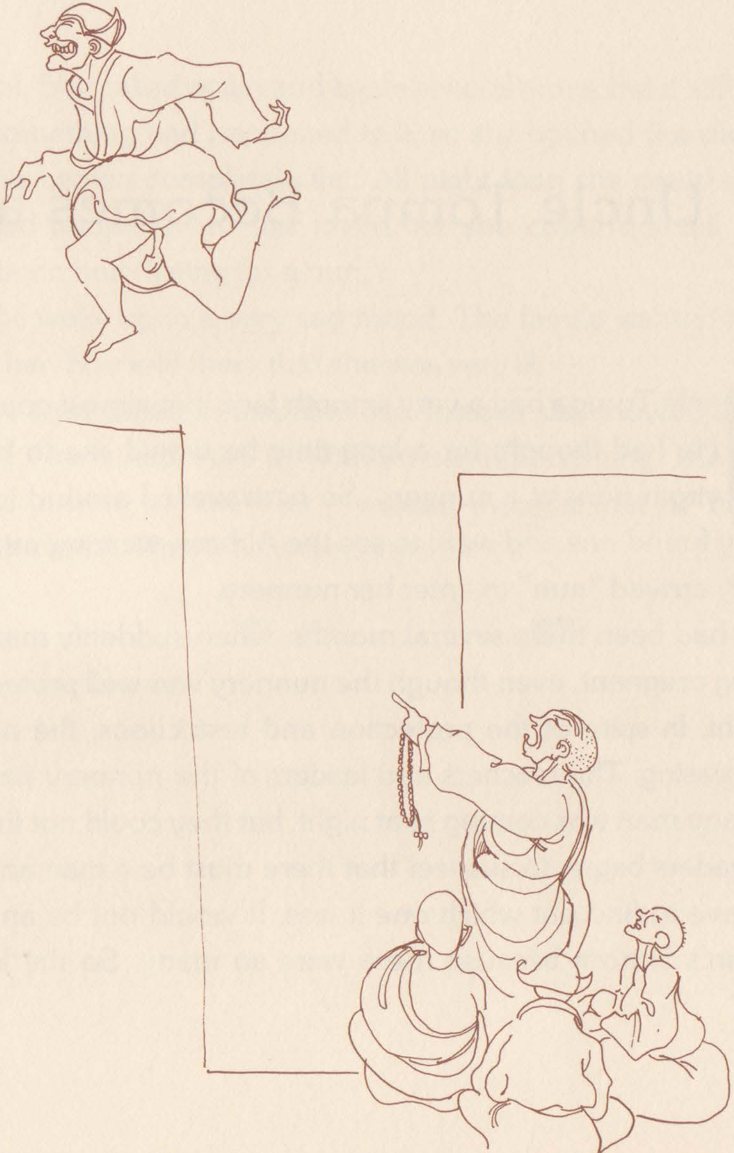
The family brought in a physician to examine her. Instead she showed the penis to the physician to see if he could cure it. Without saying anything, she put the beaten penis on a plate in front of him. The physician thought that he had been served some meat. So, he ate it. The Abbess died from shock.

Uncle Tompa Becomes a Nun

Uncle Tompa had a very smooth face that almost could pass for a woman's. He had thought for a long time he would like to fuck some fresh young virgin nuns at a nunnery. So he travelled around looking for one to join. He finally found one and went to see the Abbess, wearing nun's robes. She allowed the newly arrived "nun" to enter her nunnery.

Uncle had been there several months, when suddenly many of the nuns started becoming pregnant, even though the nunnery was well protected from men coming in at night. In spite of the protection and restrictions, the number of pregnancies kept increasing. The teachers and leaders of the nunnery paid still closer attention to see if any man was coming in at night, but they could not find anyone.

The leaders began to suspect that there must be a man amongst the nuns. They would have to find out which one it was. It would not be an easy task to examine every nun's bottom because there were so many. So the leaders built two thick



walls, one next to the other. All the nuns were told to jump, one by one, from one wall to the other, while the leaders looked up from the ground to see if any of the nuns had a penis. This way they could find out who was the cause of all the pregnancies. Since Uncle could not escape the examination, he tied his long penis with a string, pulled it back between his legs, and tied it up tight to his waist belt. Then Uncle joined the jumping with the rest of the nuns.

Uncle's turn came. He jumped and was passed. The leaders couldn't see any difference between him and the other nuns.

Of course, they did not find anyone with a penis. So everybody jumped again. Still, they couldn't find the man.

The leaders ordered everyone to jump a third time. When Uncle's turn came, he jumped, but this time the string broke and his penis fell hanging down. The leaders suddenly saw it. They caught him and realized he must be the man who had been sleeping with all the young virgin nuns!

They tied up his arms and took him around the nunnery in a large procession, showing all that he was the one who caused the pregnancies. Then they put Uncle in a dark room without food and tied both his legs and arms to a thick pillar. This was the worst kind of torture they could think of.

Later on, the leaders were listening from outside to hear what Uncle was saying to himself. Uncle knew this, so he said, "Ah! The Lord blessed me! I am perfectly

comfortable with this rope tied, but it would really be torture if they took some wet cow hide smeared with butter, and tied up both my arms and legs." He kept saying that again and again. The nuns behind the doors thought, "That must be a very painful torture for him." So they brought wet cow hide rope with butter on it and tied up his arms and legs.

Naturally, the butter on the wet cow hide made it very slippery, and the water made it stretch. Early the next morning he slipped out of his bonds, jumped from the window, and ran away without any clothes.

As soon as he was outside of the courtyard, he met a man riding a horse with two saddlebags full of food. Uncle Tompa asked him, "Where are you going?"

"I am going to see my sister at the nunnery," he answered.

"Don't you know the nunnery just made a new rule that any man who goes there can only walk in if he is without clothes? See, I just walked out without any clothes."

Hearing this, and seeing that Uncle was naked, the poor man thought, "That must be true!" So he asked Uncle, "Could you please watch my horse and things?" Of course, Uncle said yes, and reminded him not to take too long. So the man took off his clothes and went to the nunnery. As soon as he walked into the courtyard, the nuns came out of their rooms and beat him up. A whole bunch of nuns jumped on him, some believed he was Uncle, and some thought he was just trying to insult them. Finally they stopped beating him and asked why he had come in without his

clothes. He told them about meeting the naked man and what the man had said about the new rule at the nunnery.

The nuns rushed into the room where they had Uncle tied up, but Uncle Tompa was gone. They dressed the man in nun's clothes because that was all they had. Then they went down to the place where the man had met Uncle to see if he was still there. But he and all the man's belongings were gone.

Many months passed. Then one day, by accident, the man met Uncle in Lhasa. All of a sudden Uncle grabbed hold of a very tall religious pillar which was standing right in the center of Lhasa. He looked up intently at the top of the monument. The man came up to Uncle and shouted, "You are a liar and a crook! You robbed my horse and everything I had!"

Uncle Tompa kept looking at the top of the religious pillar and said, "Ah! I had been looking for you to return your things, but the Government of Tibet has appointed me as a Religious Pillar Watcher to see that this monument doesn't fall down, so I couldn't bring you your horse."

The man said, "Well, I shall substitute for you as Religious Pillar Watcher if you go and just bring me my horse and belongings!"

"All right. Just remember it is very important to shout if you see the pillar falling down." The man agreed to do so. He grabbed the pillar, which was eleven stories high, and Uncle went away.

The poor man kept holding the pillar. Soon there were clouds flying overhead in the clear sky. They were moving very fast. The poor man, looking at the moving clouds above the pillar, thought the monument was falling down. So he shouted, "People of Lhasa! The Religious Monument is falling down!"

Everybody who was around looked at him. Soon he found himself in the center of a big crowd. Everyone thought, "He is making such an inauspicious noise, and trying to disturb us and insulting our Religious Pillar with his lie."

So they all beat him up, and when they were finished, the police came and arrested him for disturbing the peace and causing a riot.

Uncle Tompa Becomes the Bride of a Rich Man

One day Uncle Tompa went on a business trip to another part of Tibet. He did not have successful business and became very bored. He then went on to a different village. As he was entering the village, he heard some people talking about how the richest man there was looking for a woman to marry. Hearing this, Uncle inquired more about it. Uncle decided that he should show up in the village to see if he could cheat the rich person.

Since he had a very smooth face, it was easy for Uncle to dress up like a woman. He bought the lung of a sheep and tied it up between his thighs with a very strong string to cover his penis. Then he cut an opening in the lung to make it look just like a vagina.

Uncle appeared as a pretty lady from a different village. He rented a house next door to that rich man's home, so that man would see him. The next day Uncle, dressed up in fancy clothes, looked out from the window to see when the rich man

was coming. Soon the rich man came riding up on a horse and passed by Uncle's window. He suddenly saw a beautiful woman looking down whom he had never seen before.

So he stopped his horse and stared up. Uncle stared down with a sexy gaze. The rich man asked her where she came from and what her name was. He immediately fell in love with this new lady. That night he came over to sleep with her and had a beautiful sex experience with the sheep's lung.

The next day the rich man decided to marry the new "lady." But Uncle refused to marry him unless he gave him all the expensive jewelry that he could afford. That was no problem for the rich man. He brought a great deal of gold, turquoise, diamonds, and all kinds of expensive jewelry to please his bride.

The following day the wedding started. The people of the entire village came to join in the ceremony. The rich man was very happy to have such a new beautiful bride. The second day was the wedding reception. Everybody was enjoying themselves and were happy that a new bride from a different place had come to live with them. Uncle wore all the expensive jewelry and clothing that the man had given him. That day he took off the sheep's lung that had been tied in between his thighs to cover his penis, which the rich man had been fucking for the last couple of days.

All of a sudden, Uncle appeared in the reception crowd holding his own thick and large penis openly and danced around. Everybody at the reception was

astonished and shocked to see the bride had a penis. Then Uncle jumped onto a horse that was in the yard and rode away with all the valuable jewelry and clothing.

The groom was so shocked with what had happened that he hid himself in a very dark room for many days. He wouldn't show his face to any villager because of his embarrassment.

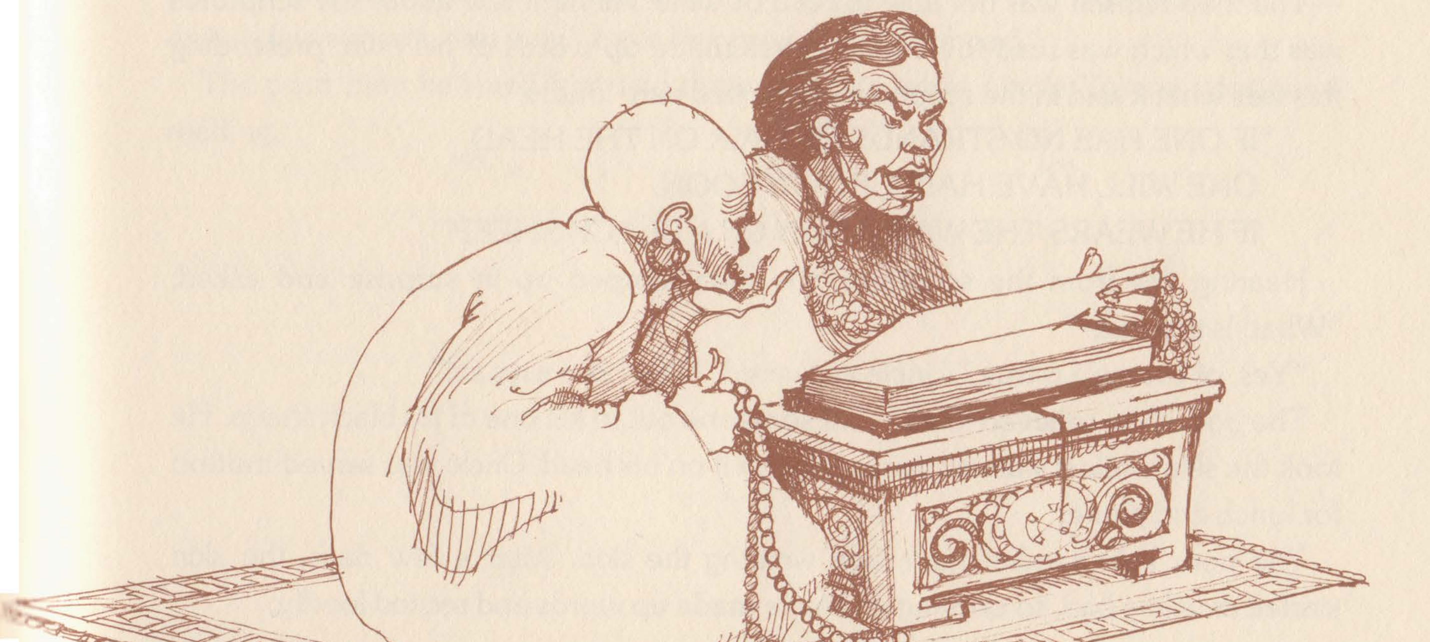
Uncle Tompa came back to his village loaded with jewelry and fine clothing, and told everyone what a success his business trip had been.

Uncle Tompa Reads Holy Scriptures

Tibetans are highly devoted to Buddhism. Most families invite a Lama or a good reader in the Buddhist scriptures once a month, or at least once every year, to come into their homes and read. Uncle was a good scripture reader. People often invited him to read to insure good luck and prosperity for their family. One day he was invited to read a scripture which normally takes several days.

The father of this family was bald headed with not a single strand of hair on his head. For this reason he was always ashamed to go out to any public gathering and stayed home all the time. When he absolutely had to go out, he would wear a special head cover.

Uncle Tompa spent a few days reading the holy scriptures at the family's house. But the family did not serve Uncle good food. The obligation of any host is to serve the reader especially good meals, and offer an amount of money after he completes



reciting the holy scriptures. At that family's home he was served only beans. They never served him any meat. So Uncle was very unhappy.

He noticed the family had several sheep, both black and white. While the father of the family, the bald-headed man, was intently listening to the holy scriptures, Uncle devised a plan.

The man himself was not able to read or write. All he knew about the scriptures was that which was read to him. So Uncle made up words of his own, pretending this was what it said in the scripture. He recited very loudly:

"IF ONE HAS NO STRANDS OF HAIR ON THE HEAD,
ONE WILL HAVE HAIR GROWN SOON,
IF HE WEARS THE WARM SKIN OF A BLACK SHEEP!"

Hearing this from the scriptures, the man jumped up in surprise and asked, "What! Is this true?"

"Yes, of course it is true," Uncle answered. "The Lord says so!"

The poor man believed it, and sent someone out to kill one of his black sheep. He took the skin while it was still warm and put it on his head. Uncle was served mutton for lunch and dinner.

The poor bald-headed man kept wearing the skin. After a few days, the skin started smelling bad, so once again Uncle made up words and recited loudly:

"IF ONE WEARS THE SKIN OF A BLACK SHEEP
ON THE HEAD LONGER THAN ONE SUNSET,
HE WILL HAVE NOTHING GROWN ON THE HEAD!"

Hearing these holy words, the man asked Uncle, "What? Read that again!"

So Uncle read it over and explained, "The Lord says, if one wears the skin longer than one sunset, he will have no hair grown. So, since you have been wearing it for quite a few sunsets, you won't have hair grown on your head."

The poor man believed him and threw it away, while Uncle Tompa continued reading.

Uncle Tompa Sleeps with a Virgin

Uncle Tompa was very good at weaving woolen fabrics for making clothes. Tibetan families often invite weavers into their homes to weave for them. Once Uncle Tompa was invited into a family where there was only a mother and her daughter. The daughter was a virgin and very pretty.

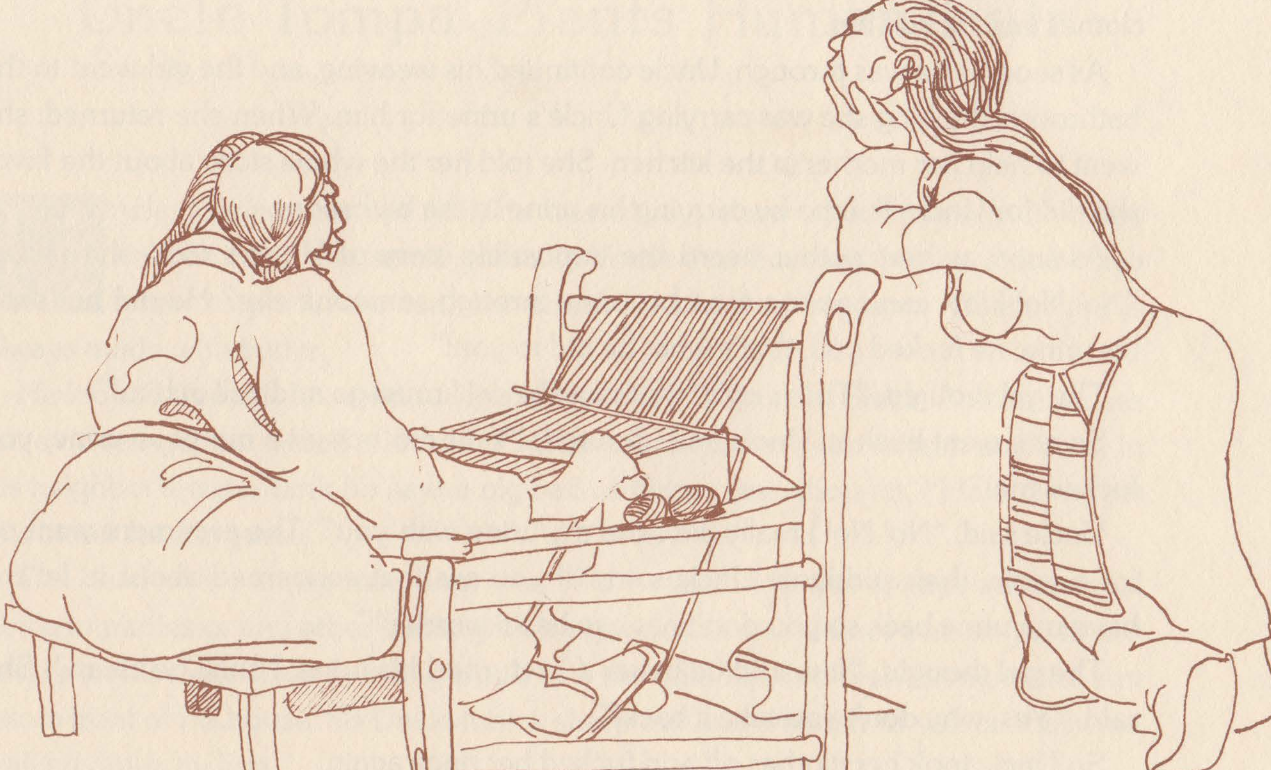
Uncle had been weaving for several days. He tried to seduce the virgin girl a few times, but could not manage it. At last he figured out a way.

While Uncle was sitting at his loom weaving in the entrance of the house, he noticed the girl walking downstairs to go to the bathroom. As soon as he saw her coming down, he sped up his weaving so that he was working very fast. When the girl saw the rush of weaving, she asked him, "Why are you in such a hurry?"

Uncle replied, "Well, I have to go to the bathroom, but I must finish this yarn before I go, that's why."

Uncle asked her, as he continued working very quickly, "Where are you going?"

She replied, "I am going to the bathroom."



"Since you are going to the bathroom, could you please carry my urine with you?"

She thought and then answered, "Why not?" So Uncle asked her to take off her clothes and fucked her.

As soon as he was through, Uncle continued his weaving, and the girl went to the bathroom, thinking she was carrying Uncle's urine for him. When she returned, she went to help her mother in the kitchen. She told her the whole story about the favor she did for Uncle Tompa by carrying his urine to the bathroom.

As soon as her mother heard the impossible story of Uncle's trick, she yelled, "No! No! How can anyone send his urine through someone else? He did not send his urine, he fucked you, that's what he did to you!"

The girl thought, "That's right; that must be so! I must go and yell at him!"

So she went back to Uncle and shouted, "You did not give me your urine, you fucked me!"

Uncle said, "No! No! I really did send my urine with you." The argument went on for a while, then suddenly Uncle said, "If you are that concerned about it, let me have my urine back so you don't have to be so worried!"

The girl thought, "It would be better if I returned his urine; I shall be clean." She said, "Yes, why don't you take it back?"

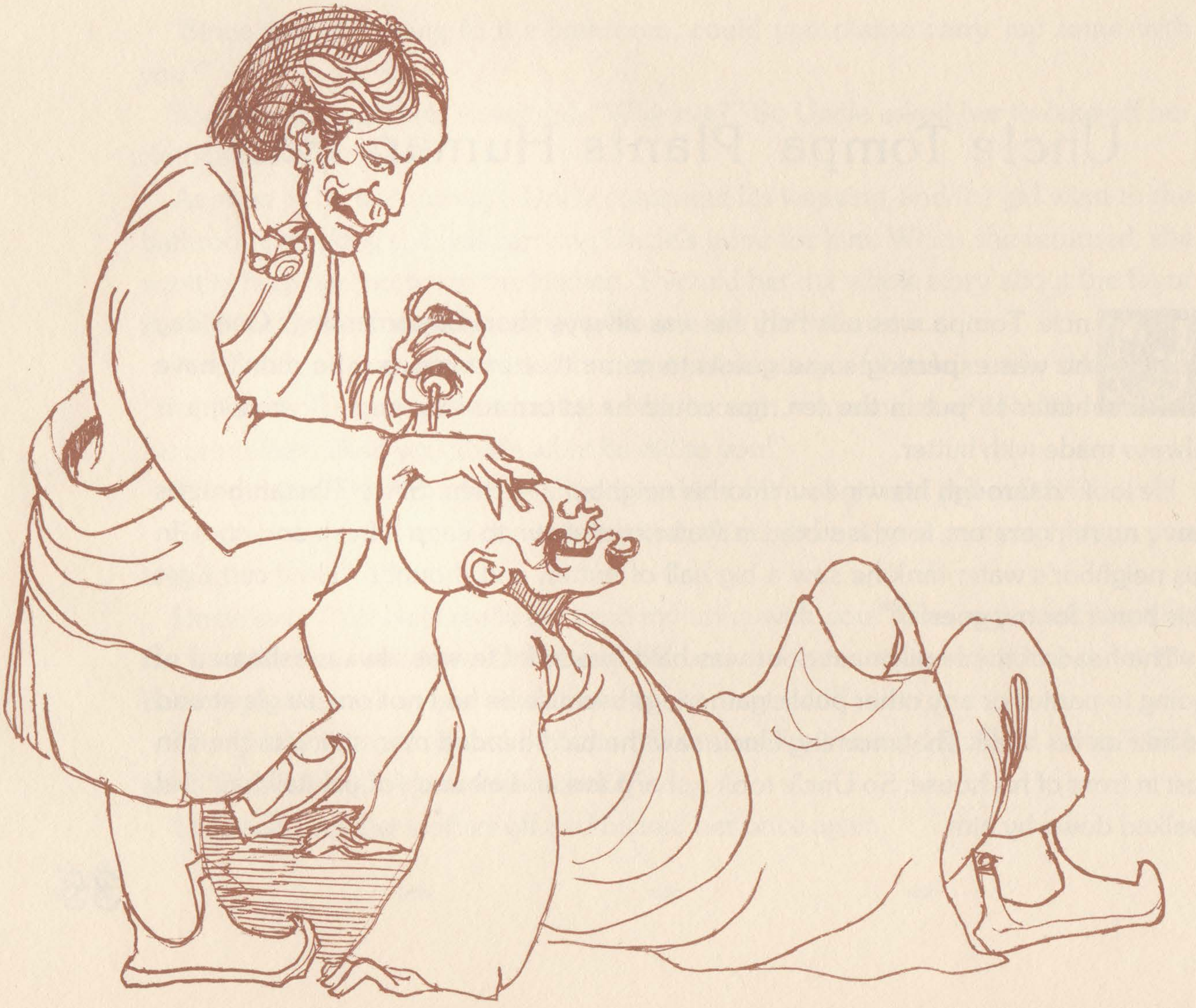
So Uncle took her clothes off and fucked her once again.

Uncle Tompa Plants Human Hair

Uncle Tompa was not rich; he was always short of something. One day he was expecting some guests to come that evening, but he didn't have butter to put in the tea, nor could he afford to buy any. Tibetan tea is always made with butter.

He looked through his window into his neighbor's kitchen. Since Tibetan houses have no refrigerators, food is stored in water containers to keep it fresh and cool. In his neighbor's water tank he saw a big ball of butter, and thought, "How can I get this butter for my guests?"

The head of the family next door was bald headed. He was always ashamed of going to parties or any other public gatherings because he had not one single strand of hair on his head. That morning Uncle saw the bald-headed man sitting in the sun just in front of his house. So Uncle took a sharp awl and a bunch of yak-tail hair and walked down by him.



The man, seeing Uncle, asked, "Hey, where are you going?"

"I met someone like you, a bald-headed person. He asked me to plant hair on his head, so I am going there!" Uncle answered.

"Wait, wait! Can you plant human hair?"

"Of course. Don't you know it can be planted?"

"Can you plant it on me as well?" the man asked.

"Yes, yes! Why don't I do you first?" Uncle replied.

Uncle then had him wash his head and took him in the house. There he began stabbing his head with the awl. "Oh! Ah!" The man said, "It is very painful!"

Uncle agreed. "Oh! Yes, yes, it is not so easy to plant hair; you just have to bear the pain."

Soon Uncle was stabbing continuously, and each place where he stabbed, he put one piece of hair to show him he was really planting hair.

Uncle Tompa stabbed him many times. Soon the man absolutely could not bear the pain any longer. The poor bald-headed man had tears running down his cheeks.

Finally Uncle said, "Well, if you don't want the hair planted, you can get released from our agreement by offering me a ball of butter." The man decided to give him the butter he had in the water container and so give up this miserable hair-planting business.

Uncle took the butter and went away.

Uncle Tompa Paints a Bull

One day Uncle Tompa was walking through the fields. He saw a man plowing. His plow was being pulled by a pair of bulls. Uncle saw that one of the bulls was black, while the other was white-and-black spotted.

So Uncle sat down near the man. He said, "Hello! You have a very healthy pair of bulls. It is too bad they are an unmatched pair."

"Why is that?" the man asked.

"Because one is black and the other is spotted."

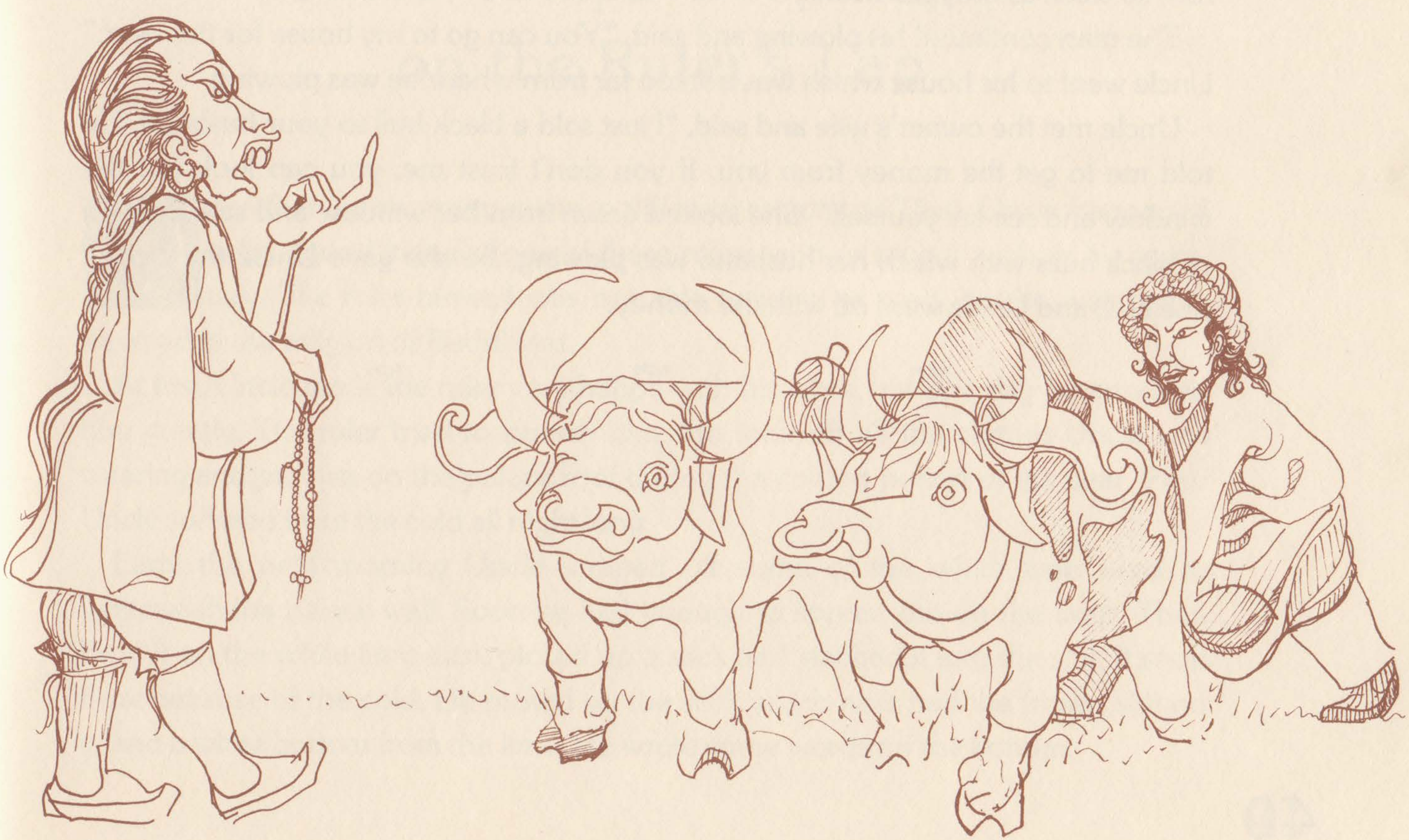
"I cannot do anything about that."

"Sure you can! You can make the spotted one into a black one."

"Could you do that for me, then?"

"Yes, yes, and it'll cost you only one cup of beer," Uncle replied.

They both agreed on the price. Uncle then untied the spotted bull from the plow. He brought some black mud and rubbed it all over the bull's body. Finally, the white



spots were all covered with mud. It looked as black as the other bull. Uncle gave it to the owner and said, "After three days, give him a bath, and then all the spots will turn as black as they are now."

The man continued his plowing and said, "You can go to my house for the beer." Uncle went to his house which was not too far from where he was plowing.

Uncle met the owner's wife and said, "I just sold a black bull to your husband. He told me to get the money from you. If you don't trust me, you can look out the window and see for yourself." She looked down from her window and saw the pair of black bulls with which her husband was plowing. So she gave Uncle the cost of one bull, and Uncle went off with the money.

Uncle Tompa Drops Shit on the Ruler's Lap

Once there were many rulers in different regions of Tibet. Uncle happened to be a good friend of one of these rulers, and so he got a job as his secretary. The ruler himself was not able to write or read, but he was highly devoted in the religion of Buddhism.

At first, Uncle made the ruler very happy with his work, but one day he annoyed him greatly. The ruler tried to punish him. He took off all the clothes Uncle was wearing and put him on the palace roof during the coldest period of the year. Poor Uncle suffered from the cold all night long.

Early the next morning Uncle scraped off some of the white lime used to whitewash the palace wall. Soon he had enough to spread out on the floor. Then he shit on the white lime dust, picked up a stick and stabbed it into the shit. It soon froze because of the cold. He picked up the stick which now had the frozen shit on it, and a white bottom from the lime. He wrote some words on the bottom.

Uncle looked down into the skylight in the Ruler's private worship room and saw him sitting cross legged and meditating before a splendid altar of Buddha and all the gods. Uncle dropped his shit right on the ruler's lap through the skylight.

The ruler woke up from his meditation and was very surprised. When he looked at this object more carefully, he saw there was some writing on the bottom.

Since he could not read, he ordered his servants to bring Uncle down in to his presence. Uncle, still shivering from the cold, was served a hot breakfast.

Soon after, the ruler ordered Uncle to read the "Miracle Shit." Uncle bowed down three times in respect and sat below the ruler's throne in a very humble posture. He picked up the shit and read the writing on the bottom very loudly:

"WOODEN HANDLED AND WHITE BOTTOMED,
THAT IS THE SHIT FROM HEAVEN
HE IS THE LUCKIEST RULER
WHEN IT DROPS ON HIS LAP!"

Uncle stood up in amazement and said, "Ah! You are very fortunate because this is shit from heaven and when it drops on someone like you, you're the luckiest person on the earth. You should eat a little bit of it to get its blessings."

The ruler touched it to his forehead, ate a piece of it, and put the rest on his altar. Uncle Tompa saluted and was dismissed.

Uncle Tompa Sleeps with the Ruler's Daughter

Once Uncle Tompa was travelling in a far away part of Tibet when he arrived at a small state. There he found the ruler had a very pretty virgin daughter. Because of her beauty, many people wished to marry her. Uncle Tompa was no exception. He too wished to become her husband, or at least to have the chance to sleep with her.

One day Uncle Tompa wore very poor-looking clothes and stood by the entrance of the ruler's palace. He had waited for several days when finally the ruler came out riding a horse. Uncle stood up, saluted, and asked if he could find him a job.

"What can you do?" the ruler asked Uncle.

"Your Lordship, I can be your sweeper in the palace bedrooms. I am very good at that." The ruler gave him the job.

Uncle had been working there for several days. One morning he walked into the ruler's bedroom with his broom to sweep. The ruler suddenly asked him, "Boy, what is your name? I forgot to ask you."

"Your Lordship, I cannot tell you my name because it is a very bad name and I am too shy to tell you!"

"You must tell me your name; otherwise, how can I call you?"

Uncle then said, "My parents, very unfortunately, gave me the name 'Penis,' Your Lordship!" So the ruler started calling the boy "Penis."

The next day, Uncle went to sweep in the wife's bedroom. She too asked Uncle his name.

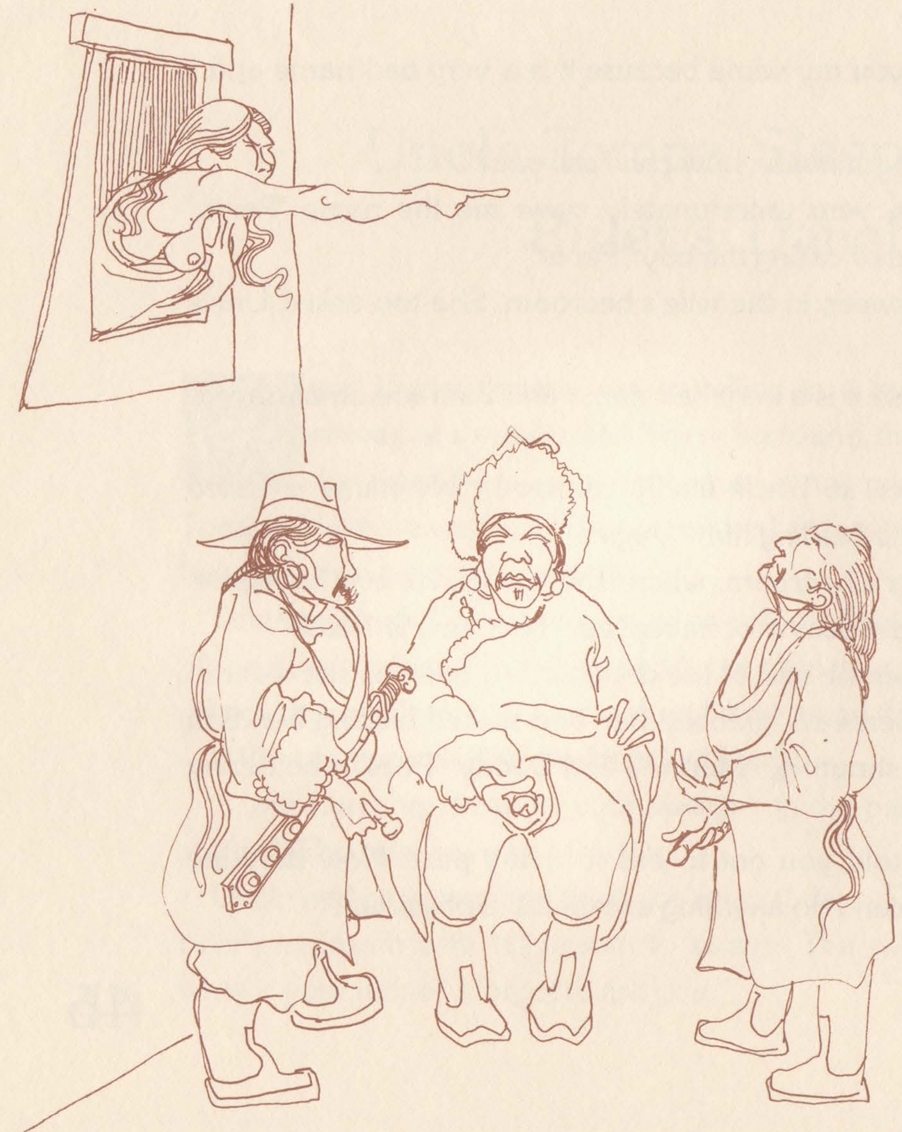
"I don't want to tell you because it is a very bad name and I am too embarrassed to tell you, Your Ladyship!"

She insisted he should tell her, so Uncle finally admitted, "My name is called 'Vagina'!" So the ruler's wife started calling him "Vagina."

Later he went to the daughter's bedroom, where she too asked him his name. Because Uncle had noticed she ate peas a lot he replied, "My name is 'Peas'!"

Then one night Uncle hid under the bed of the daughter. As soon as she went to bed, Uncle climbed out from underneath, grabbed her, and started fucking her. She was very frightened and started shouting, "Mommy and Daddy! 'Peas' is bothering me! 'Peas' is bothering me!"

Her mother yelled at her, "I told you not to eat so many peas! Now they are bothering you at night! Well, we can't do anything except call a physician."



Again, the daughter shouted loudly, "Ah! Peas is bothering me!" Her mother then came over to see what was the matter with her daughter.

She saw "Vagina" fucking her, and she cried out, "Ah! Vagina is bothering our daughter, Vagina is bothering our daughter! Come to see!"

The ruler shouted back, "Are you both going crazy? What do you mean, Vagina is bothering her?" So, finally, the ruler went to see for himself what was going on. He arrived just in time to see "Penis" jumping off his daughter and springing out the window. The ruler shouted and hit the Gong to summon his bodyguards. Soon the guards came and bowed down. He ordered them, "Penis! Penis! Go out and grab Penis." They all ran out into the courtyard and stood there holding their own penises.

When the ruler came out and saw what they were doing, he got very angry and yelled, "I told you to hold the man whose name is Penis!"

Finally they figured out what the ruler wanted, and the guards rushed out and started chasing Uncle. After some time, they caught him and brought him into the presence of the ruler.

The ruler ordered his men to execute Uncle before the eyes of the public for the crime of making love to his daughter. When all the ruler's subjects had gathered, and he was just about to be executed, Uncle shouted out, "Well! Your Lordship! I am speaking my last words to you. Listen to me! I am ready to die; I don't care

about my death. But I have slept with your daughter anyway. I am quite sure your daughter will become pregnant. I don't know if the child will be a son or a daughter. Anyway, your daughter won't be called a Princess from now on. She will be called 'widow' if she doesn't have her husband alive with her."

All of a sudden, the ruler ordered, "Wait! Don't execute him now!" The ruler thought very carefully and then said, "All right, you are free from now on." Shortly afterwards, Uncle became the son-in-law of the ruler.

Uncle Tompa Becomes a Porter

One day Uncle Tompa wanted to make some money, so he went to Lhasa and took a long rope with him. When he arrived, he looked around and saw some porters sitting and waiting for work. So Uncle also sat down and waited with them for a job to come by. After a while a man came and said to all the porters, including Uncle, "I have a box full of cups and bowls to carry home from here. Whoever carries it for me will get three pieces of good advice for his salary!"

Hearing this, all the porters ignored him. But Uncle thought to himself, "Something like money can be earned any time, but good advice is always hard to come by!" So Uncle said to the man, "Well, I will carry it for you."

They both agreed on the deal, and Uncle carried his box full of bowls and cups. After some distance, Uncle asked him, "Would you please give me one piece of advice now?"

The man said, "Don't believe anybody who tells you that it is better to go hungry than to eat your full desire!"

"That is good advice." They walked some distance and again Uncle asked, "How about giving me the second piece of advice?"

The man said, "Don't believe anybody who tells you that it is better to go on foot than to ride on a horse."

"That is true and good advice." They continued their walk and came to the door of the man's house. Uncle asked, "Now could you give me your third piece of advice?"

"Don't believe anybody who tells you that there are porters who are more foolish than you." All of a sudden Uncle let go of the rope that was tied to the box. It fell to the ground and broke everything.

Uncle then said to the man, "Don't believe anybody who tells you none of your bowls and cups are broken!" and went away.

Uncle Tompa Tries to Carry a Boulder

In a village one of the rich peasants had a field. At the center of the field sat a big rock, which was impossible to move. Uncle Tompa was running out of food again, so he wondered how he could cheat these rich people. As he walked by, he saw the rock and went over to the owner and said, "Why don't you remove the rock that is blocking so much of your field?"

The rich man replied, "I want to, but I can't."

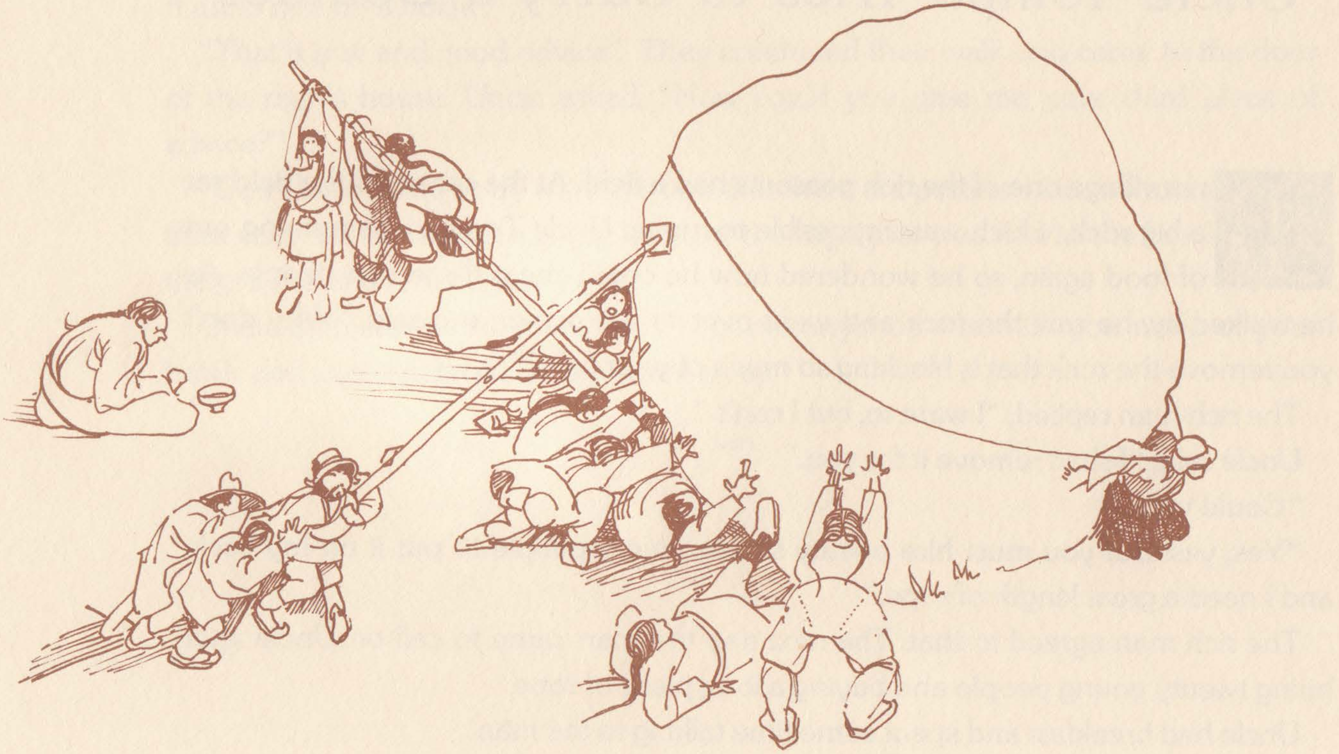
Uncle said, "I shall remove it for you."

"Could you?"

"Yes, yes! But you must hire twenty strong young people to put it on my back, and I need a great length of rope."

The rich man agreed to that. The next day the man came to call on Uncle after hiring twenty young people and buying a long piece of rope.

Uncle had breakfast and spent some time talking to the man.



When it was time for lunch, Uncle said, "Why don't you serve me lunch so I don't have to come back for it until dinner?" They served him lunch.

Uncle kept talking with them until it was time for a tea break. Uncle said, "Why don't you serve me tea so I don't have to come back for it?"

Once more Uncle kept talking to the family until dinnertime. Uncle asked them to serve him dinner, so they did that as well.

Then Uncle said, "Why don't you give me the salary for today so I don't have to come back to bother you for it?" The family did not see anything wrong with that, so they gave him one day's salary.

It was getting rather dark. Finally Uncle got up and asked for the rope. Then he and the twenty young people went out to the field. When they arrived, Uncle tied the long rope around the rock. Uncle then held the rope and leaned his back against one side of the boulder and asked the twenty young people to push and load the rock onto him.

He said, "All right, PUSH! PUSH!" They tried and tried, but it was impossible for them to get the rock to shake even one inch, much less to move it.

Uncle shouted, "Let's try again!" They still could not move it.

Uncle said to the landlord, "These people are too weak to load the rock on to me. If they had loaded it on my back, I could have carried it away. These people have failed their assignment." Uncle then went home.

Uncle Tompa Borrows a Pot from a Rich Man

Once again, Uncle Tompa wanted to cheat some rich people. One day he went to a very stingy rich man and borrowed a big copper pot. "How kind this stingy man is to Uncle!" the neighbors thought, after they saw him walking out from the rich man's house with his big copper pot.

After some time, Uncle Tompa returned to the rich man's house. As soon as he walked into the room he said, "Congratulations to you! Congratulations to you!"

"What for?" the man asked.

"Your big pot has given birth to a son. Isn't that a piece of good news?"

"Nonsense! How can a pot give birth to a son?" the rich man replied.

Now, Uncle had already wrapped a small pot the same shape as the bigger one he had borrowed in a cloth and carried it there on his back. He opened the cloth and showed his the pot saying, "If you don't believe me, just look here! What do you call this?"

No matter how serious Uncle looked, the rich man could not believe him. He thought to himself, "If Uncle is such a foolish man, it would be silly of me not to take advantage of him!" He then acted like he was very happy to have the new son of his pot and said, "Thank you for your congratulations on this splendid occasion!"

Uncle put the small copper pot into the rich man's hand and again told him what a beautiful son his pot had given birth to!

"The little son really looks like his mother, doesn't he?"

"Yes, yes," he agreed.

Uncle then took his leave. The rich man said, "From now on, take good care of the mother, my big copper pot. May she have more sons like this one!"

After a few days, Uncle came back to the rich man with a sorrowful expression and said, "What a terrible thing happened to us!"

"What happened?"

"Your big copper pot is dead."

The rich man shouted out, "Nonsense! How can a pot die?"

Uncle replied, "If a big pot can give birth to a son, then why can't it die?"

Naturally the rich man did not feel like letting Uncle have the big pot just like that. He said, "Well, anyway, since my big pot is dead, will you please bring its corpse back to me?"

"Sorry! I have already cremated it."

"Where was it cremated?"

"In the oven of the blacksmith."

Then the rich man got annoyed and could not conceal his anger. "You are a robber; you robbed my big pot!" he shouted out.

Uncle shouted back at him, "You are the robber who robbed my small pot!" They started to quarrel. All the neighbors came to see what was happening. But since the rich man feared he would get a bad reputation, he stopped arguing about his pot and walked back into his house.

Uncle Tompa's Wife Dies

Several years later, Uncle Tompa's wife died after suffering from a long illness. The same morning he cried and cried, saying, "I shall not remain very long, either! I shall not remain a very long time!"

The villagers thought, "Oh! poor Uncle, he is saying he also wants to die soon." So everybody from the village brought food and *chhang* (beer) to console him, saying, "Your wife died, which is too bad, but you should live a long life."

By evening, with all the food and *chhang*, he was drunk, laughing, singing songs and dancing around. The villagers were shocked. They asked him, "What happened to you? You were saying you wouldn't remain too long; but now you are laughing and dancing and singing songs!"

Uncle replied, "Well, I meant that I would not remain long in mourning. I did not mean I was going to die. My mourning did not last. It is gone, isn't that true. Now I am enjoying myself."

Uncle Tompa Sleeps with his Own Daughter

After his wife died, Uncle Tompa lived alone with his daughter. Several years later she was fully grown and turned out to be a very beautiful girl. Uncle Tompa had wanted to have sex with her for a long time, but it is very unusual for a man to sleep with his own daughter.

One day his daughter got ill; the illness lasted several days. Now in Tibet everybody has such a strong faith in Lamas that whenever a person gets sick, they go to see a Lama and get a blessing. By having such strong faith, often people are cured.

So Uncle Tompa played a trick. He told his daughter, "You are so ill, early tomorrow morning you should go see the holy saint who lives in a cave nearby. He will give you blessings and suggestions to cure your illness. But you should know that the saint who lives in the cave has taken a vow to keep his face covered. You should not ask him to uncover his face." Uncle Tompa gave her the directions to get

to the cave, which was in a rocky mountain. The daughter followed the words of her father. Actually, nobody lived in the cave. Uncle himself went and quickly reached the cave before his daughter. He covered his own face with a cloth and sat in the cave.

Finally, his daughter arrived. She bowed down and paid her respects. She told him all about the suffering from her illness. But the "saint" gave no blessings except to chant in a very deep voice, "Join two navels, join two navels, you will be cured."

This was all that he uttered. So she started her way back home with these instructions. Again, Uncle left quickly and reached home before her.

When she got back she told Uncle what the "saint" had told her. Uncle said, "It is rather embarrassing to ask someone to come and join their navel to your navel. So I shall join mine to yours tonight. How about that?"

His daughter agreed.

After it got dark, Uncle Tompa told her, "Now it is time to join our navels!" They both took off their clothes, and he asked her to stretch out her legs and lie down on the floor. So she did, and sure enough, Uncle laid down on her and touched his navel on hers several times. Then, of course, the desire to have sex overcame both of them, and Uncle very leisurely fucked his daughter and fulfilled his desire.

Uncle Tompa Plays a Trick on his New Wife

Some time later, after Uncle Tompa's first wife died, he married another woman, with whom he lived for many years. Uncle's new wife was a pretty woman who liked to sleep with different men every time Uncle had to go away on business. He had known this for some time. So Uncle thought of playing a trick on her to make her stop.

It took quite a while before Uncle could think up a scheme. One day Uncle was called by the governor of a different region to come there and weave fabrics for his family, since Uncle was very good at that. He left his wife at home and went to the governor in the other region.

Uncle spent a few months at that place making fabrics. The governor was very pleased with his work and asked, "Do you want to come to settle here? I shall give you work as long as you want to remain."

Uncle showed interest but said, "Well! Your Lordship! I would very much like to

move here, but there is a problem which must first be solved. Perhaps you can help."

The governor asked in surprise, "What is that?"

Uncle replied, "My wife is a very pretty woman, so many men like to sleep with her. But whoever sleeps with her gets killed except me!"

"Why is it so?"

"My wife has something very unusual. A snake lives in her asshole and comes out and bites whoever makes love to her! That snake has already killed several people in my village, so I am very afraid this will happen here, too!"

The governor said, "I shall gather my people and give them a warning about this. That should convince them not to bother her."

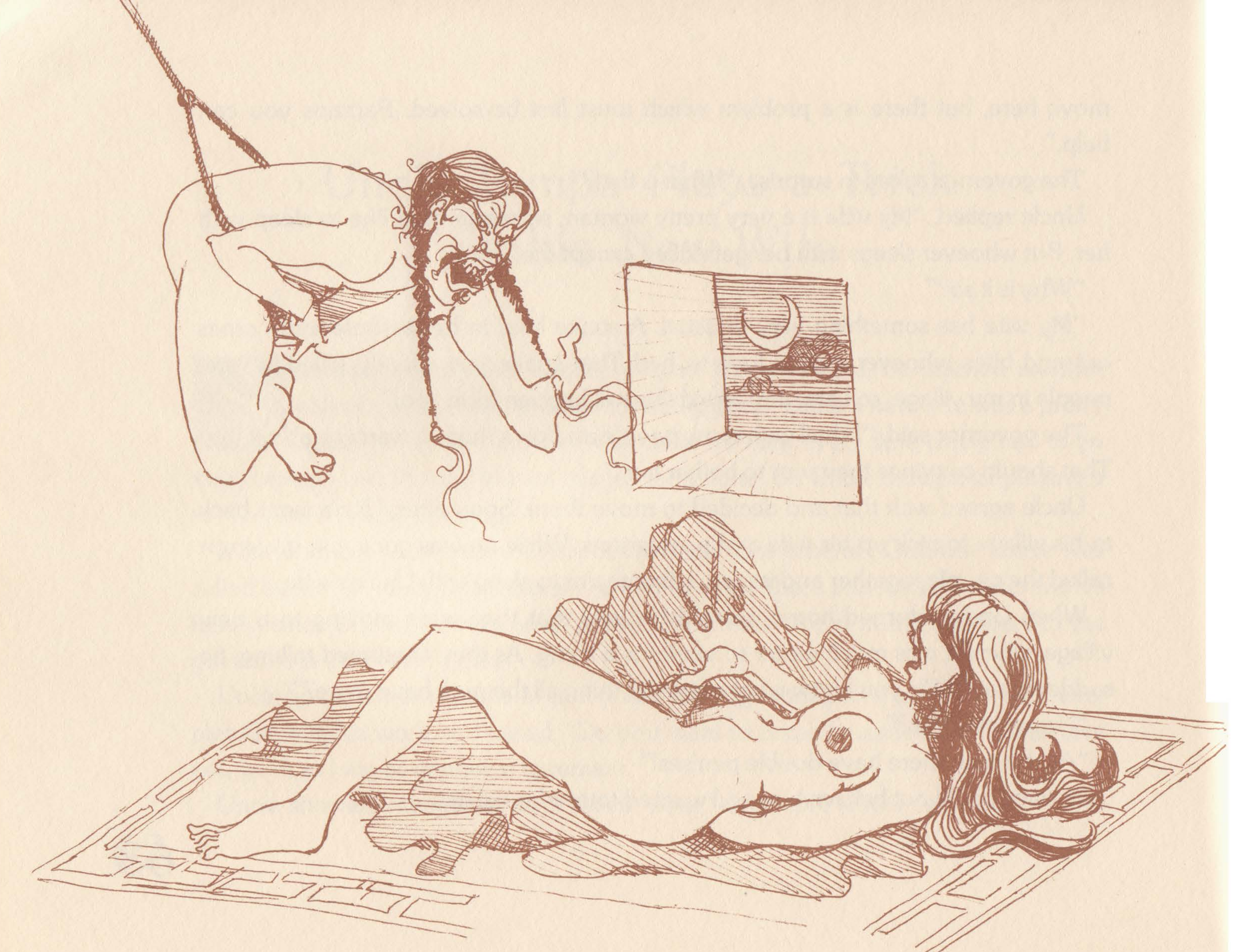
Uncle agreed with that and decided to move there. Soon after, Uncle went back to his village to pick up his wife and possessions. While he was gone, the governor called the people together and issued a decree not to sleep with Uncle's wife.

When Uncle returned home, he told his wife that they were moving to a new village, where it was much easier to work for a living. As they continued talking, he suddenly said, "Do you know what a strange thing all the men have there?"

"No, what is that?"

"All the men there have double penises!"

His wife could not believe him and wanted to see for herself.



Finally they moved to the new village. Because of his work, Uncle often had to go out and could not return home at night. His wife had to stay home alone. Many of the young men fell in love with her and wanted to have sex, but they were all afraid they would get bitten by her snake and be killed.

One night, while Uncle was away, a young man wanted to sleep with her so badly that he devised a plan to sleep with her without getting killed. He and some friends went over there carrying a thick long rope. They climbed on the roof and tied one end of the rope around the man's waist and lowered him down into her room through the skylight. This way, when the snake started to come out of her asshole, he could shout to the others to pull him back up quickly, and not get bitten. She was very glad to see him. They went to bed right away and started fucking.

Uncle's wife was lying on her back. While they were fucking she was thinking, "Now, my husband told me that all the men here have double penises, but it feels like this man has only one!" So she reached her hand around under her thigh and started feeling to see if she could find the second penis.

When he felt her fingers moving up from behind, he yelled, "Pull! Pull! the snake is coming out! The men on the roof jerked the rope up so fast that he hit his head on the edge of the opening in the roof and broke his neck.

The next day all the people in the village were talking about the man who got killed by Uncle's snake. From then on, Uncle enjoyed his wife without interference from other visitors.

Uncle Tompa Makes the Ruler Bark Like a Dog

It was the first day of the Tibetan new year. Everybody was busy celebrating. According to tradition, one member of each family must go to see their ruler with offerings, such as Tibetan breads, fruits, fabrics, and white scarves for good luck.

They were all visiting their ruler that day. Uncle Tompa told everyone there that he could make the ruler bark like a dog on this occasion, but nobody believed him. "He won't do that. It is too inauspicious." But Uncle promised that he would.

That whole day the ruler was busy receiving subjects for the New Year's greetings. Many people were sitting down having a meal with him. All of a sudden Uncle Tompa walked in with a surprised expression. The ruler was sitting on his throne wearing his most expensive clothes and crown. He saw Uncle walk in looking very surprised. Besides that, he was the last person who came to visit that day. This was the first time Uncle had been to the palace since the time he had worked as a secretary.

So the Ruler asked Uncle, "Where have you been all this time?"

Uncle said, "My lord! There is a dog which is outstandingly beautiful for sale. I was trying to buy it as a present for you."

Because dogs are judged by the strength of their barking, as well as by their appearance, the ruler asked, "What does the dog sound like?"

Uncle made a sound just like a cat. "Meow, Meow!"

The Ruler said, "That is not the sound of a good dog. That is just like a cat!"

"My lord, what does a good dog sound like?"

Then the ruler put his hands on the table in front of the throne. He stood up on all fours just like a dog, and said, "Woof! Woof!"

Everyone laughed at how Uncle Tompa's trick had worked.

Uncle Tompa is the Ruler's Servant

A ruler from a far away state had to go to Lhasa for a conference. Of course, high-ranking persons never travel alone, so he brought Uncle along as his servant. While the ruler rode a horse, poor Uncle had to walk behind him carrying a heavy load of blankets and pots for cooking along the way. The ruler also being very stingy, ate all the good food while Uncle had to eat the leftovers.

It took them days before they reached Lhasa. The ruler was still treating Uncle very badly. One day the ruler was going to a conference. Before he left, he put his best tsampa in one pot and boiled eggs in another pot. The ruler pointing to the pot of tsampa said, "You should not eat this tsampa; it is poisoned." Then he pointed to the pot of eggs and said, "And you should not open this pot for it is full of birds and if you open it, they'll all fly off." Uncle knew the ruler was only trying to keep the best food for himself but he pretended he didn't know it was edible.

As soon as the ruler left for the conference, Uncle ate up all the tsampa and eggs.

He had a good lunch for the first time on the journey.

That evening when the ruler walked in, Uncle pretended to shake with fright. The ruler opened the pots of tsampa and eggs and found them both empty. He became very angry and screamed at Uncle, “What happened to the birds and poisoned tsampa?” Uncle replied, “The birds were making so much noise that I thought that they needed a bit of air so I opened the lid a little and they all flew away. I was so worried that I wanted to kill myself so I ate up all the poisoned tsampa. But unfortunately, my lord, I did not die!”

The Foolish Man from the Village

Once upon a time there was a very foolish man living in a village. He thought he should go to the city, thinking he would be the brightest, smartest, and the most handsome man there. He expected all the people would come to see him. That day he dressed up like a rich person and started his journey toward the city.

When he arrived, he came to a shop where they sold all kinds of vegetables. He looked around, saw some pumpkins, and wondered what they could be. He finally decided they must be the eggs of a horse. So he asked the shopkeeper, "Hello! Are those horse's eggs?"

The shopkeeper thought, "What a stupid person! I should give his foolish question a foolish answer." So he replied, "Yes, sir, they are the eggs of a horse."

The foolish man asked, "How much are they?"

The shopkeeper wanted fifty Ghormo, although pumpkins normally cost only

one Ghormo. And sure enough, he was willing to pay that much for the "horse egg."

After purchasing it he headed back towards his village. He thought, "It was lucky that I was able to buy such a marvelous thing in town!" While on his way, he was also thinking, "I shall wrap the 'horse egg' in warm clothes and keep it by the side of the oven, where it is warm. Then after some time, the egg will hatch, and I will have a horse baby. When the horse gets big, I shall sell it for a good price, and out of that money I will buy several more eggs from the same shop. But I should not tell anyone in the village, because they will also learn how to get horses this way."

So he made all kinds of imaginary plans on his way. Then he came to a small pool with a tree growing beside it. It was just before he came to his village. It was a rather hot day, so he decided to take a bath before he got home. He put his "horse egg" in between two branches of the tree, took off his clothes, jumped in the pool, and was enjoying his bath.

All of a sudden, the wind blew, and his "horse egg" fell down from the tree and broke in two pieces. Now there just happened to be a rabbit sleeping by the tree. When he heard the noise of the falling pumpkin, he became terrified and ran away.

The foolish man saw the egg break in two, so when he saw the rabbit running off he thought, "The horse baby has come out of its egg!" He jumped out of the pool and tried to catch the rabbit. He did not even have time to put on his clothes. He ran

and ran, chasing it for a long time, but it is very hard work to catch a rabbit. And it was soon lost from his sight.

After feeling very sad about what happened, he went back to his home and told his wife the whole story of the "horse egg." His wife was just as foolish as he was. She said to him, "Why didn't you catch the horse baby and bring it here? I could have ridden him."

But hearing these words, the foolish man got mad and beat her, saying, "If you ride on such a small horse baby, you will break his back!" He beat her until she was crying so loudly that all the neighbors came to see what was the matter. The husband told them the story about the "horse egg." They all laughed because they had never heard of a horse laying eggs. They asked him to show them the broken egg. He took them to the pool where it dropped, and they saw two pieces of broken pumpkin.

Everybody started laughing again after seeing and hearing what had happened to this foolish couple.

THE END

about the author and illustrator...

RINJING DORJE's father was born in Kham, eastern Tibet. He was recognized at an early age as an incarnate lama from the Sherpa region in northeastern Nepal. He returned to that area and grew to be an esteemed astrologer as well as a competent practitioner of Tibetan medicine. In reward for curing a royal princess, he was appointed governor in the northwestern region of Nepal. There he married a local woman who bore him three sons.

Once, in the course of official duties which kept him on the road many months of the year, he travelled again to the Northeast. There he married a second woman (as is often customary in Tibetan culture) from the village of Shabru. She gave birth to Rinjing Dorje in the Tibetan year of the Earth-Ox (1949).

When Rinjing Dorje was five, he and his mother moved to the Northwest to live with his father's first wife and her three sons. But Rinjing Dorje and his mother were not well received. The older mother and her sons treated them badly and finally forced his mother to return to her village. Rinjing Dorje could not leave his new home himself before the age of twelve without forfeiting his share of his father's inheritance.

While his older brothers went to school, Rinjing Dorje herded yaks in far off mountain pastures. There he had many nomad friends with whom he enjoyed sitting around, laughing and joking. He especially liked the times when they told stories of Uncle Tompa. It was mostly during this period in his life, between the ages of six and twelve, when he heard the stories contained in this book.

When Rinjing Dorje was twelve, his father died. Shortly thereafter, he was thrown out of the house by the older mother and her sons. With only a plateful of tsampa and one rupee (10¢), he began a two-month journey to find his own mother; this adventure is worthy of a story itself. He recounts meeting his mother as the "happiest day in my life."

A short time later, his mother received documents confirming Rinjing Dorje's inheritance of his father's monastery in Kathmandu, Nepal. She then took the vows of a Buddhist nun to support and live in the monastery. It was in Kathmandu that Rinjing Dorje first came in contact with Westerners. He attended school and became proficient in the English language.

Since the age of twenty, Rinjing Dorje has assumed financial and administrative responsibility for the monastery. To further his education, he presently resides in the United States where he plans to remain for three more years before returning to his homeland.

ADDISON SMITH, an American by birth, has been living for the past seven years in the mountains of Nepal. His artistic and creative existence can best be compared to that of a Tibetan mountain nomad. He beautifully shares that experience through his illustrations.

D. L.
July 1975

The publisher would like to express thanks to all who gave their time and energy towards the preparation of this book. Special mention to Addison Smith who drew the illustrations; to Charles and all the good folk at Fishtown who shared their environment; to the calligraphers Ron Sorrenson and Steve Herold; to the people at Community Typesetters, San Rafael; and for all the good memories of working with Rinjing Dorje, the compiler and translator.